

Family first - that's an order

Colonel Richard Scobee

301st Fighter Wing Commander

Thanksgiving has passed and Christmas is approaching quickly. It's easy to get tied up in the madness of heavy workloads, family holiday events and the extra helpings of shopping that go along with the holiday season. I can try to avoid that last one, but the rest of the busy schedule is unavoidable for all of us.

One thing that seems to get lost in the hectic days of December is showing our appreciation for the people we have in our lives. I'm just as guilty at that as the next person, but I do know how important each person in our lives is, so I hope we can work on that together.

By now you all know I always speak the truth. I'd tell any commander in the military that my wing is better than their wing. That's because day in and day out, I see the people doing great work, and I know it's absolutely true. And because I really do care for both you and your family, I want to issue two challenges to each and every 301st Fighter Wing member.

First, take care of yourself and your family. Make sure your family is your priority. You've all heard me tell you that your family is the most important thing. When life is stressful at home, it's hard to be effective at work. So if you have leave, and your unit can spare the time, spend that leave. Let your dedication

show at home just as much as you show it here. Let those closest to you know that they're your first priority this season and always.

My second challenge follows the first one pretty closely. We will all be working hard to fit 31 days of work into just over fifteen work days before the holiday break starts to affect our schedules. We'll have to make sure the stresses of both the holiday work schedule and our family lives are well balanced and running smoothly. Watch your co-workers and make sure their spirits are high.

But we have to be careful not to overextend them or ourselves. If someone around you seems dragged down, be a good wingman. Ask if they're okay. Maybe they just need to know someone noticed and cared.

I'd like to close by telling you I look forward to seeing all of you at Commander's call this weekend. That includes you folks way in the back of the theater. I know your short time here is valuable, but it's my rare chance to talk to all of you at once, and it's important to recognize you and tell you face-to-face that I value each and every one of you. Without each of you giving your all both



Colonel Richard Scobee

at work and at home, we wouldn't be the best fighter wing in the United States Air Force.

From the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of my staff and family, I want to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas season. And thank you for being part of my family.

ON THE COVER:

Dallas-Ft Worth National Cemetery honored children of fallen military members on Veteran's Day. The ceremony included children receiving the Gold Medal of Remembrance and a 21-gun salute presented by the 14th Marines Second Battalion. More on the ceremony on page 5.

(U.S. Air Force Photo/TSgt Shawn David McCowan)

FIGHTER LINE

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Articles should be typed, single-spaced, and, if possible, submitted via email to the public affairs office at 301fw.pa@carswell.af.mil.

For more information about the Fighter Line, call the 301st Fighter Wing public affairs office at 817-782-7170.

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Character Determines Success

SMSgt Sylvia Budinich

Health Services Superintendent 301st Medical Squadron

(Editor's Note: This commentary is the fifth in a series focussing on mentoring and leadership to develop character)

On 14 and 15 November, I attended the AFRC Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Leadership Course, which the Medical Squadron hosted. Attendees came from numerous bases across America. It was the fourth consecutive year the 301st Medical Squadron hosted this leadership course.

So far, the course is for Master Sergeants or above. Stay tuned to see if that gets opened up.

This was my first time attending the course. The instructors were extremely knowledgeable. Senior Master Sgt Karnellius Smith, from the Maintenance Squadron and Master Sgt Kenneth Wright from the 908th Airlift Wing, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., were excellent facilitators.

Day one's course curriculum consisted of blocks such as Whole Brain Thinking, Leadership and Trust, Teamwork and Coaching, Communication, Creativity and Innovative Thinking.

During day two, we covered Negotiation and Conflict Resolution, Career Development and Progression, Performance Feedback and Recognition, Motivation and Leadership Planning.

The course was fun, very interactive and we laughed a lot especially during the numerous indoor and outdoor exercises. Two of my favorite exercises were the Trust exercise. Six classmates stand next to a picnic table with their arms interlocked while a seventh

classmate stands on the picnic table in a blindfold. Then he/she is turned around three times and told to fall backward and trust their six fellow classmates. My classmates and I caught Chief Morrissette, the Command Chief Master Sgt for 10th Air Force here.

The other exercise I enjoyed was "The Shark-Infested Island." It followed the same theory as musical chairs.

I highly encourage you to attend a future class. It's an excellent leadership refresher. It will enhance your leadership skills and it's a great forum for networking. Also, the information disseminated is invaluable and relevant and can be utilized immediately back in your workplace.



- 29. **Joyfulness vs. Self-pity** Maintaining a good attitude, even when faced with unpleasant conditions.
- 30. **Justice vs. Corruption -** Taking personal responsibility to uphold what is pure, right and true.
- 31. Loyalty vs. Unfaithfulness Using difficult times to demonstrate my commitment to those I serve
- 32. **Meekness vs. Anger** Yielding my personal rights and expectations with a desire to serve
- 33. **Obedience vs. Willfulness** Quickly and cheerfully carrying out the direction of those who are responsible for me.
- 34. Patience vs. Restlessness Accepting a difficult situation without giving yourself a deadline to remove it
- 35. **Persuasiveness vs. Contentiousness** Guiding vital truths around another's mental roadblocks



SMSgt Sylvia Budinich

In Review: Character Qualities 22 - 28

- 22. Generosity vs. Stinginess Carefully managing my resources so I can freely give to those in need.
- **23.** *Gentleness vs. Harshness* Showing consideration and personal concern or others.
- **24. Gratefulness** vs. Unthankfulnes Letting others know by my words and actions how they have benefited my life.
- **25. Honor** vs. Disrespect Respecting those in leadership because of the higher authorities they represent.
- **26.** *Hospitality vs. Loneliness* Cheerfully sharing food, shelter or conversation to benefit others.
- 27. Humility vs. Pride Acknowledging achievement results
- Acknowledging achievement results from the investment in others of others in my life.
- **28.** *Initiative vs. Idleness* Recognizing and doing what needs to be done before I am asked to do it.
- *From *Character First website*: www.characterfirst.com



Second Yellow Ribbon event given better reviews than first, staff looks ahead

TSgt Shawn David McCowan

301 FW Public Affairs

Attendees and staff agreed that the second 301st Fighter Wing-coordinated Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program event was a greater success than the first.

Just over a hundred guests were in attendance for the November 12-15 event held at the Radisson Fort Worth North at Fossil Creek.

Chief coordinator and member of 301st Airman and Family Readiness, MSgt Thomas Blair, said he was happy with the results and the feedback.

"I based my opinion on our success by the reactions during the event and individual critiques people filled out at the end of the event. We really got a lot of good feedback. People said they enjoyed their weekend, and would come back if we did this again," said MSgt Blair.

Those critiques are being used to develop the programs for future Yellow Ribbon events.



Many attendees said their favorite block was the "four colors" personality session hosted by Bob Patterson. (U.S. Air Force Photo/Tracy Harris)

The weekend included many sessions from the previous Yellow Ribbon event, but also introduced several new programs, including the "Four Lenses" sission, a new favorite among guests that exposes and compares differences in couple's

individual personality.

Sergeant Blair said he was ready to begin planning for the next event. He said he was looking at dates in March 2010, and would announce the official program dates soon.



Representative Michael C. Burgess, from Texas' 26th District, attended the event. He addressed the attendees and took time to personally speak with nearly every guest in attendance . (U.S. Air Force Photo/Tracy Harris)



To learn more about the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program, please call MSgt Thomas Blair at the Airman and Family Readiness Center -817-782-7527, or email thomas.blair@carswell.af.mil.





Captain T.D. Smyers (above), Commander of Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Ft Worth, solemnly addresses attendees of the Gold Medal of Remembrance presentation at Dallas-Ft Worth National Cemetery on Veteran's Day. Marine Lt. General (ret) Dick Carey (below) presents the Gold Medal of remembrance to children of fallen military members during the ceremony. (U.S. Air Force Photos/TSgt Shawn David McCowan)

National cemetery, local commanders honor children of fallen heroes

TSgt Shawn David McCowan

301 FW Public Affairs

Hundreds of veterans, families and well-wishers showed up at the Dallas-Ft Worth National Cemetery November 11 to honor the children of servicemembers who have recently died during Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom

After the National Anthem, performed by the Reflections Home School Choir, and a flyover by four 457th Fighter Squadron F-16s, a who's who of local military members and political figures contributed to the ceremony Colonel Richard Scobee.

301st Fighter Wing Commander, and Lt Colonel Chris Yancey, new 457th Fighter Squadron Commander, were also distinguished guests at the ceremony.

The keynote speaker was Captain T.D. Smyers, commander of Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas.

The White House
Commission of Remembrance recently authorized the medal to honor
children of a parent who
died during hostile action
while performing military
duty in Operation Enduring Freedom
or Operation Iraqi Freedom.





Reservists fly Kid Rock, other artists on Tour for the Troops

Lt. Col. Ann Peru Knabe

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

12/2/2009 - INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey — Being an Air Force reservist sometimes has its perks, like when flying an internationally known musician overseas. Aircrews from the 70th and 79th Air Refueling Squadrons based at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., recently drew lucky straws and took Kid Rock on a KC-10 flight during the 2009 Tour for the Troops.

"It's not something you get to do too often," said Master Sgt. Frank Carlos, a boom operator with the 79th ARS. The reservist with 18 years in the service normally works in a production department at a beverage company in California. He's flown VIPs before out of Andrews AFB, Md., but the Tour for the Troops is his first time flying musicians and bigname entertainers like comedian Carlos Mencia. As a boom operator, Sergeant Carlos says he wears two hats.

"I'm an air refueler and a loadmaster," he explained. "As a boom operator, I am responsible for refueling aircraft from the KC-10. But in missions like the Tour for the Troops, I serve in a loadmaster role, helping with cargo and people."

Master Sgt. Scott Dillinger, a KC-10 flight engineer from the 79th ARS, said it was his first mission flying artists like Kid Rock and Mr. Mencia. The air reserve technician said in some ways the mission was a little easier than getting up for refueling missions that leave at 3 or 4 a.m.

"We're actually on a more set clock on the Tour for the Troops mission," said Sergeant Dillinger. "And, if we need any en route support, it's considered high priority."

Tech. Sgt. Carl House, also a flight engineer in the 79th, normally flies 10-15 days a month with the Air Force Reserve. The reservist is a day trader in his civilian job,



Kid Rock and the Twisted Brown Trucker Band perform at the Tour for the Troops concert Dec. 1, 2009, inside Hangar 4 at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. Also on the tour that runs through Dec. 12 were singer/songwriter Jessie James, comedian Carlos Mencia and members of the Band of the Air Force Reserve. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Lauren Padden)

managing a large financial portfolio. As a flight engineer, he is responsible for "maintaining CG" ... the center of gravity on the air-to-air tanker. He spent seven years active duty before joining the Reserve 14 years ago.

"The 11-hour leg of the tour is a lot of work and long hours," he said. "But it's a terrific opportunity to bring these artists to the troops."

Formerly called Operation Seasons Greetings, the 2009 Tour for the Troops also features singer/songwriter Jessie James, the Twisted Brown Trucker Band and the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve. The tour schedule includes stops at Incirlik AB; Ramstein AB, Germany; RAF Lakenheath, England; and a number of deployed locations in Southwest Asia. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)

Base inclement weather notices available

Mr. Don Ray

Public Affairs Officer, NAS Fort Worth JRB

Inclement Weather? Base Closed? Should we experience severe winter weather that causes public highways to become unsafe for travel, the NAS Fort Worth Commanding Officer will make the determination to close or delay the opening of the Naval Air Station for normal operations.

If the Base will be closed or operations delayed due to winter weather, then that information will be passed to the news media by the Base PAO.

Television channels FOX 4, NBC 5 and WFAA 8 are the three news stations that have agreed to broadcast the Base closure or delayed opening information.

The web sites for these three news stations will also carry the same closure or delayed opening information.



Fall 2009 Graduates Announced

Cindy Adams, Program Manager of Education Services at the 301st Fighter Wing, is pleased to announce the latest list of CCAF graduates. Please take a minute to congratulate these individuals for their accomplishment.

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301 CES	SSgt	Christopher J. Burke
301 CF	TSgt	Regina W. Hudson
301 FSS	MSgt	John W. Holt, Jr.
301 FSS	TSgt	Ronald G. Pyles
301 FSS	TSgt	Adolphus Talton
301 FW	SSgt	Diana C. Montellano
301 LRS	TSgt	James E. Baker
301 LRS	SSgt	Yokona S. Bell
301 LRS	SSgt	Thomas R. Nunn
301 LRS	TSgt	Frances L. Smith
301 LRS	SSgt	Janet A. Smith
301 MDS	SrA	Tiffany K. Colbert
301 MDS	SrA	Kinsey D. Jacobs
301 MDS	SSgt	Emily E. Nelson
301 MDS	SSgt	Shalena M. Robinson
301 MDS	SSgt	Giovanni D. Wells
301 MDS	TSgt	Carlos J.F. Frechel
301 AMXS	SSgt	Robert C. Marbut
301 AMXS	SSgt	Royal J. Peters
301 AMXS	SSgt	Dennis J. Walter, Jr.
301 AMXS	SSgt	Dennis J. Walter, Jr.
301 MOF	SSgt	Troy W. Morgan
301 MXS	MSgt	John A.R. Candey
301 MXS	SSgt	Steven R. Carlson
301 MXS	SSgt	Leandro Duque
301 MXS	SrA	David L. D. Jackson
301 MXS	SSgt	Teri Y. Litten
301 MXS	SSgt	Richard T. Sandbrook
457 FS	SSgt	Victoria G. Swink
457 FS	SSgt	Benjamin L. Welch
73 APS	SrA	Ryann M. Ocampo
73 APS	SSgt	Armen M. Weinrick
44 FW/De	t1SSgt	Jeanette A. Blankenship
44 FW/De	t1SSgt	Joseph F. Carter, Jr.
44 FW/De	t1 SrA	Allison L. Garces

Emergency Management Information Management **Dietetics and Nutrition** Information Management Social Services Financial Management Logistics Logistics Logistics Vehicle Maintenance Logistics Information Management Criminal Justice Transportation Allied Health Sciences Health Care Management Medical Lab Technology Aviation Maint Technology Aviation Maint Technology Aviation Maint Technology Aircraft Armament Sys Tech Information Management Aviation Maint Technology Avionic Systems Technology Munitions Systems Tech **Munitions Systems Tech Munitions Systems Tech** Aerospace Ground Equip Tech Information Management **Aviation Management** Avionic Systems Technology **Transportation** Aircraft Armament Sys Tech Avionic Systems Technology **Transportation**

Air Force Blues by SSgt Austin May Public Affairs USAFE



457th Fighter Squadron gets new commander



Lt Colonel Chris Yancey (right) became the 457th Fighter Squadron's newest commander in a change-of-command ceremony November 8. He assumed command from Lt Colonel Keith Knudson. (U.S. Air Force Photo/TSgt Stephen C. Bailey)

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The 301st Fighter Wing Public Affairs office wants to hear your opinion on local and Air Force Reserve-wide news.

Have an idea for a story in your unit, or want to get published in an internationally-distributed publication?

Contact us at 301FW.pa@carswell.af.mil (use email subject line -"Fighter Line Feedback") or call DSN 739-7170, COM 817-782-7170.



Local Airmen earn 'wings' 301st Commander boosts incentive program to reward

hard work, success

Tech. Sergeant John Hutchinson 301st Maintenance





Why TSgt Hutchinson was selected:

A member of 301st Aircraft Maintenance since October 2003, he was selected as NCO of the quarter twice, Oct-Dec 2006 and Apr-Jun 2008, during his time here.

He volunteered for Operation Iraqi Freedom years 2007 and 2009 where he acted as end of runway supervisor and hardened aircraft shelter supervisor, which directly

(U.S. Air Force Photos/Major Karl Lewis)

contributed to unit accumulating over 4000 combat flight hours.

After returning from his 2009 deployment he assumed duties as expediter and production super while other personnel were still deployed.

He was an integral part of the landing gear team which performed 1800 hr inspections with a 100 percent pass rate.



Senior Airman Sergio Arrieta 301st Maintenance



SrA Arrieta's Experience:

"I loved it. It really is an unforgettable experience. What I enjoyed most about the ride was getting to take the stick and flying the plane. It's amazing how agile the plane is!"

"I just learned that, as a ground mechanic, you really don't know the sum of your work on the ground. But once

(U.S. Air Force Photos/TSgt Stephen C. Bailey)

you actually fly it, you get to see your contribution towards the aircraft."

"I think the most physically demanding part of the flight was pulling 8.3 Gs! You have to be in pretty good physical condition to do that all the time."